OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

NO: LTC # 182-2012

LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO:

Mayor Matti Herrera Bower and Members of the City Commission

FROM:

Kathie G. Brooks, Interim City Manager

DATE:

July 13, 2012

SUBJECT: COMMUNITY RATING SYSTEM (CRS) CLASS INCREASE

It is my pleasure to report to you that the City of Miami Beach's rating in the Community Rating System (CRS) of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) has been upgraded from a Class 7 to a Class 6 and approved by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). As a result, City of Miami Beach property owners are entitled to a 20% discount on flood insurance policies issued or renewed on or after May 1, 2012. This translates into approximately \$5,000,000 cumulative annual premium discounts for current flood insurance policy holders within the City of Miami Beach. The upgraded rating will remain valid for a period of five (5) years until the next verification visit from FEMA.

Attached please find a copy of the letter from FEMA notifying the City of Miami Beach of its new increased rating in the CRS.

The City of Miami Beach's CRS Program is coordinated by Mohsen Jarahpour of the Building Department. This CRS rating increase is the result of much hard work on the part of the Building and Public Works Departments over the last two (2) years. Please join me in commending them for their efforts on behalf of the residents of this community.



JUN 15 2012

Jorge Gonzalez Miami Beach City Manager 1700 Convention Center Drive Miami Beach, Florida 33139

Dear Mr. Gonzalez:

Congratulations! The Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), has determined that your community will increase to a Class 6 in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS). The floodplain management activities implemented by your community qualifies it for a 20 percent discount in the premium cost of flood insurance for NFIP policies issued or renewed in Special Flood Hazard Areas on or after May 1, 2012. This increase is based on a field verification of your five-year cycle CRS application. I am enclosing the field verification report showing the results of your application review for your records.

Please note Preferred Risk Policies, applicable in Zones B, C, and X, on your community's NFIP Flood Insurance Rate Map are not eligible for the CRS discount. Standard rated flood insurance policies in Zones B, C, X, D, AR, and A99 are limited to a CRS discount of ten percent in Class 1-6 communities and five percent in Class 7-9 communities. The rates for these zones already reflect significant premium reductions.

If there are no NFIP noncompliance actions, the CRS rating for your community will automatically be renewed annually and a notification letter will not be sent to your community. This renewal will occur as long as your community continues to implement the CRS activities you certify each October. If no additional modifications or new CRS activities are added, the next verification visit for your community will be in accordance with its established five-year cycle or three-year cycle for CRS Class 5 or better communities. In the interim, FEMA will periodically send the NFIP/CRS Update Newsletter and other notices to your CRS Coordinator to keep your community informed.

I commend you on your community actions and your determination to lead your community to be more disaster resistant. This commitment enhances public safety, property protection, and protects the natural functions of floodplains, and reduces flood insurance premiums.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact the FEMA Region IV Office, CRS Coordinator, Janice Mitchell, by telephone at (770) 220-5441.

Sincerely,

David L. Miller

Associate Administrator

Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration

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Enclosure

cc: Mohsen Jarahpour, CRS Coordinator